

## LEGISLATURE IS PUSHED FOR TIME

Looks Now As if Extension or Special Session Will Be Necessary.

### STRODE'S IMPORTANT BILL

Women May Be Deputy Clerks of Court—Houston Talks About Crab Fight.

After more than two full weeks of work, the General Assembly has made but little headway, and with some days before it faces a prospect of either extending the session or adjourning a considerable amount of important business.

Bills and resolutions are still crowding in at every session, and while several measures have been taken up out of their order and passed, small progress has been made with the calendar which is daily growing to larger proportions. Committees are hard at work; members are serving long hours, and everybody is buckling down in a business-like manner, but it is practically impossible to get a Legislature thoroughly organized in less than two or three weeks. Meanwhile, time is rapidly passing. The House has made better progress than the Senate, but even there the amount still to be done is almost appalling when it is considered that the entire session is to be of but sixty days. It seems to be recognized on all sides that the time is not sufficient, and some dissatisfaction with the constitutional provision touching this point has been expressed. On practically all sides it seems to be conceded that to give proper attention to all the weighty matters before the body an extension of time or a special session will be necessary, and it is being argued that, in view of the delay incident to organization, which would have to be endured all over again in a special session, an extension would be the more advisable plan.

But here enters another consideration which is likely of itself to call for serious consideration at the hands of the Assembly. It is claimed now that the salary of members of the Legislature is much insufficient to attract to it the best talent of the time were ordered they would receive absolutely no compensation for the extra days they served. If a special session were called they would be given the regular allowances. There appears to be a widespread disposition to increase this allowance, but this increase cannot, of course, benefit the present Legislature. A bill has already been introduced doubling the per diem—raising it from \$1 to \$2.

Many members feel that this is too much, but they are willing to vote for a more moderate increase and think that such an increase should be made. Advocates of the advance to \$3 per day argue that this amount would be sufficient to maintain the members satisfied while in the Capital and would permit extensions of time when necessary, which under the present allowances causes an expense that is greater than some can comfortably afford.

### Will Be Busy Week.

The week will probably be a busy one in both houses. Important special hearings are scheduled before committees on several days. The State Institutions will all submit their claims at a meeting of the Committee on Finance and Education Tuesday night. Dr. E. A. Alderman, president of the University of Virginia, will be among those to appear. On the same day the Senate Committee on Public Institutions and Education will consider the amount of the appropriation to be asked for the primary school system. Wednesday night the same committee will take up the same question on a general law proposal.

A hearing on the Torrens land system bill will be held in the hall of the House of Delegates to-morrow night. The Senate committee for courts of justice has been favorably invited to sit with the House committee. The Senate to-morrow morning to hear argument on the bill to protect the proprietors of hotels from debt and fraud. A committee composed of P. M. Fry, of the Jefferson Hotel, Richmond; H. C. Cavell, of the Hotel Richmond; J. H. Cavell, of the Hotel Norfolk; J. H. Callahan, of the Cavalry Inn, Clifton Forge, and William A. Young, representing the State Association of Hotel Proprietors, will appear to advocate the passage of the bill.

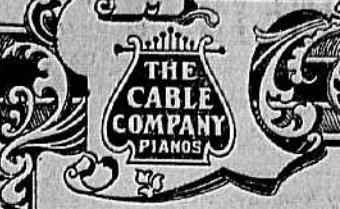
### New Matters of Note.

Besides these there will be a number of other important committee meetings. Bills of widespread interest will be up in the houses themselves and indications point to several new matters of note. Important bills will be proposed to-morrow. On to-morrow or Tuesday Senator Patterson will introduce a resolution demanding that the State Institutions from Virginia have not followed the mandate of the General Assembly of Virginia and introduced and supported an amendment to the Federal constitution looking to the election of United States Senators by the people. This resolution was reported adversely yesterday by the Finance Committee, but the Lynchburg Senator announces that he will fight the matter out on the floor of the Senate. The Thomas movement marks the first step in the crusade to accomplish a sweeping investigation into the tax methods of Virginia and to determine whether or not large sums are being lost by the State through failure to assess all taxable values, particularly of public service corporations and more particularly railroads.

To lawyers, and litigants as well, perhaps the most important bill before the General Assembly was offered yesterday in the Senate by Mr. Strode, of Amherst, providing that courts of equity, concurrently with courts of law, shall have jurisdiction in all cases except except for breach of contract or marriage. Advantages of great moment to the people of the State generally are claimed for this bill, which is certain to cause a stir. The sweeping change it effects is endorsed by a number of skilled attorneys, and the heavyweight lawyers in the Legislature are giving the plan much attention, though they are chary of committing themselves in advance of more serious deliberation.

"The passage of this bill," said Mr. Strode last night, "would if large measure secure the uniformity of the system of equity pleading which prevails in many of the more progressive States without subjecting the people of Virginia to the trouble and cost of providing and controlling a more elaborate system. The right of trial by jury is preserved intact in this bill to those who wish it, as is also the attendance of witnesses to testify in person."

"Instead of a new and intricate system of equity pleading we adopt the easy, well understood and elastic system of equity pleading, which already obtains in this State. No simpler system could possibly be devised, while almost every conceivable question of equity practice has already been adjudicated by our own



**THE CABLE CO.,**  
RICHMOND, VA.  
J. G. CORLEY, Manager.

An Invitation to the Public  
to Inspect the Magnificent  
**Mason & Hamlin**  
Grand Piano  
Which Will Be Used By  
**Madame Antonette Szumowska**  
AT THE  
**Richmond Choral Society's Festival,**  
**ACADEMY OF MUSIC,**  
• Night of February 8th.

This magnificent instrument is one of the largest, if not the largest, Piano ever in Richmond. It combines a depth and brilliancy of tone seldom equalled in any Pianos, and in none except those of the Mason & Hamlin make.

It is equally clear in the pianissimo as well as the fortissimo effect, and has the most desirable quality of immense carrying power. Loud and clear, yet tempered to a delightfully soft and harmonious tone, the treble notes silvery sweet and singing, and those of the bass rich and melodious—a perfect combination of musical excellence.

The Piano will be on exhibition until February 8th, after which visitors will not be allowed to inspect it, this being necessitated by the tuning and regulating of the instrument before the concert.

courts or the courts of other States, where equity Jurisdiction obtains.

"The readiness with which lawyers go into equity when they have the option of, in the case of attachments, I venture to say that not one case in a hundred of foreign attachments is brought on the law side of the court, though the plaintiff in such cases has the option of proceeding either at law or in equity."

### Get Away From Difficulties.

"The effects and desire to get away from the difficulties of the needlessly technical and intricate system of common law pleading in vogue in Virginia has led States to adopt a code of pleading. It is, however, practically impossible to foresee every case that may arise and the attempt to provide in advance a set for every case leads to many controverted points of pleading which, of course, have to be decided anew, and without the guide of a binding precedent in a State newly adopting the code system."

"Why should it require two suits, or more accurately, both an action at law and a suit in equity to obtain a judgment on a note and to subject land to its payment."

"Why should not the judgment be obtained by suit in equity, wherein, if necessary, the debtor's land might also be subjected to the payment of the debt?" "Again, there is a large class of cases in which the attorney is in doubt whether to proceed at law or in equity. He files a bill in equity. The defendant demurs to the jurisdiction, and the trial court sustains the demurrer. The Court of Appeals reverses the lower court, and the litigants, after a year or two of exhausting and expensive litigation and delay, are not one step nearer a settlement of the merits of the controversy than they were the day the suit was instituted. Is there any good reason why this intolerable condition should exist?"

"Tennessee has gone much further than proposed in Maryland in the same line, and there the change gives most admirable results in expediting litigation and promoting the ends of substantial justice."

"Of course, there are details to be worked out, but they are surprisingly few when we consider a change giving so much that is new and desirable along lines old and well known."

Among the particularly interesting bills of the day in the General Assembly was a measure proposed in the Senate by Captain Patterson, of Buckingham, permitting women to serve as deputy clerks in circuit courts. The same bill permits any person over eighteen years of age to qualify as a deputy clerk. The age limit at present is 21 years.

"I was requested by residents of Charlottesville," said Senator Patterson yesterday, "to have the bill fixed in the code, and in drawing the bill I inserted a clause allowing women to serve. The law at present permits them to act as notaries. So far as I know there are at present no women seeking positions as deputy clerks, but this bill is expected will probably attract a number of them."

By request, Delegate Jennings yesterday introduced a bill to amend the existing revenue law in so far as it pertains to the licenses of physicians, surgeons and dentists. The amendment provides that members of the medical profession who pay the State tax shall not be compelled to pay any additional tax imposed by any city, town or county.

Acting jointly, Delegates Ordway Fuller, of Richmond; Robert W. Withers, of Norfolk; and J. H. Callahan, of Clifton Forge, yesterday introduced in the House a bill of far-reaching importance to change the existing law so as to enable a jury in a suit brought to recover damages on account of loss of life to award such amount as may seem fair and just. Under the present law the limit of damages that may be recovered is \$10,000, regardless of what the life of the person killed may have been worth, as to the earning capacity, to the sufferer or sufferers.

A measure similar to the Fuller-Withers-Gaines bill has been introduced at nearly every session for the last eighteen years. It has been defeated, the supporters of the present bill declare by the combined efforts of the railroad companies and other big corporations.

The vital clause in the new bill reads as follows: "The jury in any such action may award such damages as to it may seem fair and just."

The effect is to enable the plaintiff in an action brought for damages on account of loss of life to place an approximate value on the life that carried a financial benefit to them and to demand a commensurate compensation.

Delegate McRae yesterday introduced in the House a bill to require any manufacturer, proprietor, firm or corporation engaged in the manufacture or sale of

coca-cola, pepin cola, cola-pepin or other like compounds to post the formula showing the ingredients of the same. A fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$50 will be imposed for each day's failure to comply with the terms of this statute.

The Department of Comparative Legislation in the Capitol has taken up quarters in a space in the old hall of the House of Delegates, which will be used by the Department of Agriculture for a museum or exhibit room. The room on the second floor heretofore used by the library department has been turned over to Speaker Cardwell, who will use it for an office.

An official communication from the General Assembly of Maryland was read in both houses of the Legislature yesterday announcing the appointment of a committee to meet a similar committee from Virginia for a conference, with a view to concurrent legislation as to the general law in the States of Maryland and Virginia. The Maryland committee is composed of Senators Linthicum, Kilgus and Lancaster, and Delegates Hayden, Ray, Lackerman, Godwin and Wilmer. Delegate Thornhill has already offered a resolution providing that a similar committee be appointed on behalf of the Virginia Legislature.

Senator Patterson, of Buckingham, yesterday introduced in the Senate by request a bill providing that the Judges of the Circuit Courts of Virginia shall appoint a pension commission for each county in their respective districts who shall execute a bond not exceeding \$1,000, and whose duty it shall be to visit at least once a year in person each soldier and widow on the pension rolls of Virginia, execute all pension vouchers, prepare such new applications as they may be requested from time to time to prepare, certify as to the value of all property owned by each one and prepare and revise the list each year as is now required by law. The compensation of the commissioner is not to exceed five per cent of the amount paid out for pensions in his county.

The Senate Committee for Courts of Justice yesterday reported the following bills:

Senate bill No. 47—To amend and reenact section 25 of chapter 98 of the acts of Assembly of 1902-3-4, with recommendation that it do not pass.

Senate bill No. 58—To amend and reenact an act to make husband and wife competent witnesses for or against each other in certain civil and criminal cases, approved April 2, 1902, without amendments.

Senate bill No. 60—To regulate the manner of bringing suits against incorporated cities and towns, with recommendation that it do not pass.

Senate bill No. 93—To amend and reenact section 108 of the Code of Virginia, so as to authorize county, city and district officers who are appointed to fill vacancies in the same manner as if elected by the people—with amendments.

Senate bill No. 94—To amend and reenact section 221 of the Code of Virginia, so as to authorize receivers of estates of deceased persons, who are minors to execute bonds before the clerks of courts—with amendments.

In a bill offered in the Senate yesterday by Mr. Kezzell and referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks, the Governor and the Attorney-General are authorized to employ associate counsel to assist the Attorney-General in representing the interests of the Commonwealth in the case now pending before the State Corporation Commission, under the title of Commonwealth of Virginia, at the relation of the State Corporation Commission to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company and others, and further to assist the Attorney-General in any appeal or appeals which may be taken in this case, and in any other litigation growing out of or in any way affecting the classification of freight and schedules of transportation rates recently formulated by the Corporation Commission, or any changes in or additions to the same heretofore made by the commission. The bill carries an appropriation of \$3,000.

A lengthy preamble to the bill sets forth that an attack is being made on the validity and reasonableness of the classification of freight and schedules of transportation rates recently formulated by the State Corporation Commission; that other litigation of a like nature may hereafter be instituted; that "the result of such litigation vitally affects the interests of the people of this Commonwealth," and that the other official duties of the Attorney-General make it impossible for him to give the time and attention which the importance of the litigation demands.

The "Richmond Herald" of January 28th has the appended editorial comment on the Patterson bill, which provides for a

## MAKERS OF VIRGINIA LAWS.



SENATOR EDWARD ECHOLS.

separation of the school funds of the State.

An incidental but highly significant proof of the widespread interest in the cause of the public schools is furnished in the large number of bills offered on this subject in the early days of the Virginia Legislature. There have been referred to the appropriate committee, and later on some progressive and satisfactory measure will almost surely be reported, and as we hope and believe will be passed. In the Senate, Mr. Cram Patterson has offered a measure providing for the submission to the people of an amendment to the Constitution providing that the revenue derived from the taxation of the white people shall be expended wholly upon the education of white children, and the revenue derived from the taxation of colored people shall be used exclusively for the education of colored children. This old proposition of a division of the school fund between the races, according to the taxes paid, hove up in some form at almost every session of the Legislature.

It is thoroughly reactionary and mischievous, and we earnestly hope it may sleep the sleep that knows no waking in the committee to which it is referred. It is palpable to any one who thinks about it that the principle involved in such a measure as Senator Patterson is said to favor is destructive of the whole scheme of public education. The public schools are for the benefit of all the people of the Commonwealth. When once we begin to tamper with that fundamental principle of public education, there is no telling where we shall land. We may make a discrimination now on racial lines. Then we may later on find some basis for further division. For our part we do not believe any sincere friend of the public schools will be found supporting Senator Patterson's proposition or anything akin to it.

We are told by competent lawyers that such a measure would almost surely be in conflict with the Constitution of the United States, and that in all probability the United States courts would enjoin the State authorities from making such a division of the funds as it proposed. But the bill is essentially vicious in principle, and we desire its defeat. It is based upon the view that ignorance, thriftlessness and vice are more desirable with respect to a certain portion of the population of the Commonwealth than intelligence, thrift and virtue. The plan proposed of the measure is to destroy the negro schools, and this would unquestionably be the effect of the measure. We do not believe that our Virginia people desire any such legislation.

## STRAIGHTEN OUT SALARY MATTER

(Continued from First Page.)

to Central State Hospital, vice O. D. Batchelor, resigned.

John N. Tabb, of Gloucester, visitor to Virginia Military Institute, to succeed Lloyd T. Smith, deceased.

John M. Hart, of Roanoke, trustee for State Female Normal School, Farmville, to succeed Edward C. Glass.

The appointments passed by are as follows:

Eugene H. Clowes, of Richmond, visitor to Eastern State Hospital, for six years. Approved March 1, 1906.

R. Hunter Beasley, of South Boston, trustee for State Female Normal School, Farmville, to succeed C. E. Vawter.

### Session Yesterday.

Both houses of the General Assembly passed busy days, and a number of important new bills were introduced, changing the law as to the recovery of damages that may be recovered as the result of accidents causing loss of life. Delegate McRae offered a bill to require persons engaged in the manufacture or sale of coca-cola and like compounds to make public the formula showing the ingredients of the drink.

The progress of the General Assembly during the past week has been slow. Work is accumulating, and it is recognized on all sides that a great deal of it will never be accomplished in the sixty day session. There is already much talk of an extension of the time or an extra session.

### THE SENATE.

Tangle in Matter of Increasing Salaries is Straightened Out.

Beyond the proceedings in executive session, the straightening out of the tough one, the acts increasing the salaries of certain officials and the introduction of several new bills of considerable interest, the Senate passed a very quiet day. It was again impossible to make any headway with the calendar.

The session began at noon with President Wickham in the chair, and a fairly good attendance of members. Few visitors were in the hall, but the number increased as the day progressed. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. W. H. L. Smith. Committee reports brought in a number of bills with various amendments and recommendations. New bills came from several quarters, two or three of them being of considerable importance.

A joint order from the House of Delegates calling for the election of a superintendent of public printing at 12:30 o'clock was received and considered. Three or four more bills were offered and a petition or two drifted in. At 12:30 o'clock Judge Phlegar arose and made his third attempt to secure an executive session for action upon the nominations of the Governor for positions on the various State boards. He offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Senate do immediately, after the execution of the joint order, go into executive session to consider the nominations made by the Governor for the positions on the boards of State Institutions."

"I move that the resolution be adopted," said Mr. Shackelford promptly.

Inquiry was made by Mr. Kezzell if the resolution precluded action on the nominations of superintendents of schools. He proposed an amendment, adding to the resolution a provision that would permit the consideration of all nominations and passed. The Senate then went to executive session, all outsiders, including newspaper reporters, being excluded.

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### Salary Bills Passed.

Under a suspension of the rules the two bills reported from the Finance Committee, increasing the salaries of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Commissioner of Agriculture to \$2,500 each were taken up out of their order and passed.

Judge Mann called attention to the fact that unless these acts became law before February 1st they would be of no value. Some question had been raised, he said, as to the constitutionality of the bills, and he desired to know the opinion of the Attorney-General. The Attorney-General, Mr. Chapman, was willing to take the chance. Mr. Chapman said that the Attorney-General had been consulted and that he had declared the bills unconstitutional.

The Attorney-General himself, Judge Mann replied, as well as the auditor of public accounts, is today drawing his salary under an act precisely the same as those, he declared, unconstitutional. Judge Mann said he had examined the law and while not certain that the bills were necessarily unconstitutional, he thought very serious questions might be raised.

Both bills had been adopted, Mr. Chapman reported on behalf of the Finance Committee a substitute for the Walker bill relating to the salary of the State librarian and this bill was also taken up out of its order and passed. It is a re-enactment in constitutional form of the entire section concerning the salaries of the three officials. In this general bill the increase of the salary of the librarian to \$2,500 is included along with the other two. The salary increases, over which there was a considerable tangle, are in this way doubly assured.

If the separate bills are unconstitutional, the general bill will protect the officials affected; if the general bill is held up in the House, on account of the increase in the librarian's salary, the bill providing for which has not yet been reported from committee in that body, the separate bills will still take care of the superintendent of instruction and the commissioner of agriculture.

### Mr. Bottom Elected.

At the hour fixed the Senate proceeded with the execution of the joint order for the election of a superintendent of public printing. The name of Mr. Davis Bottom was placed before the Senate by Mr. Harmon, of Richmond, and the nomination was seconded by General Anderson, also of Richmond. There being no other nominations, the unanimous vote of the Senate was cast for Mr. Bottom. Committees were appointed to canvass the vote, and announcement was made to the effect that a total of 99 votes had been cast in both houses, of which Mr. Bottom received the entire number. He was then declared duly elected.

Motion was made by Mr. Kezzell that the bill reported by the Finance Committee to appropriate certain moneys for the payment of the contingent and incidental expenses of the two houses of the General Assembly, be taken up out of its order and passed.

"Is that bill to interfere with the executive session?" asked Judge Phlegar, quickly calling attention to his resolution.

"It is not," replied the Rockingham senator. "Unless this bill is passed, the wages of the employees about the Capitol cannot be paid."

"Can't the bill be considered after the executive session?" asked Judge Phlegar. "It can, of course," said Mr. Kezzell. "Unless the Senate adjourns. Will not the senator from Northumberland yield, with the understanding that immediately

upon the passage of this bill, the Senate shall go into executive session?" "Well, I will yield to this bill, but no further," said Judge Phlegar.

The contingent bill was thereupon taken up and passed. The Senate then went to executive session, all outsiders, including newspaper reporters, being excluded.

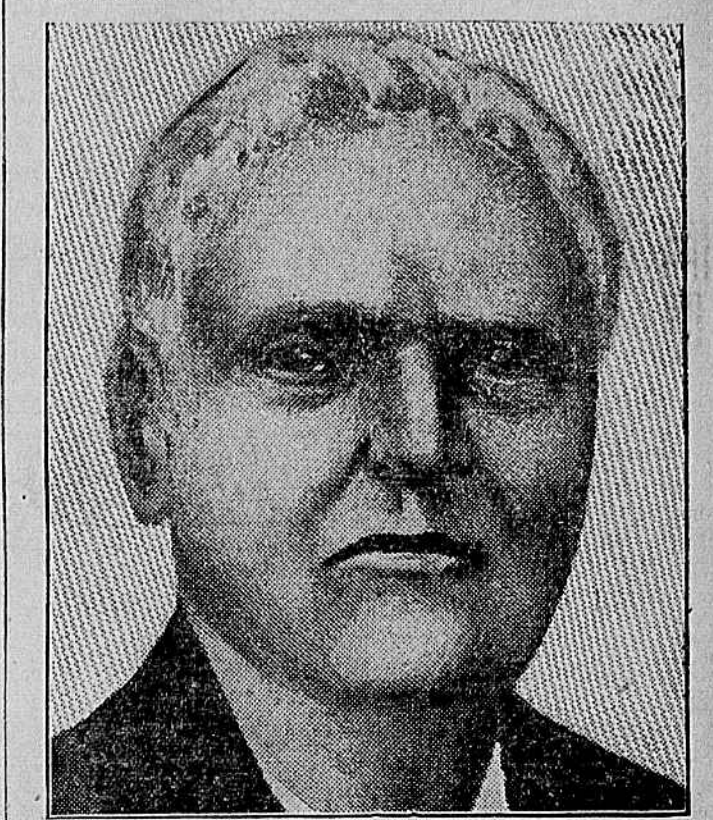
At the conclusion of the executive session, the Senate adjourned until noon on Monday.

## WEAK BACK! IT'S YOUR KIDNEYS!

Ex-Judge James P. Murphy, 515 S. Joliet St., Joliet, Ill., who suffered intensely for years from kidney disease and pains in side and back, restored to health and cured at 84 by

## WARNER'S SAFE CURE

A TRIAL BOTTLE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST KIDNEY CURE SENT ABSOLUTELY FREE TO EVERY READER OF THE SUNDAY TIMES-DISPATCH WHO SUFFERS FROM KIDNEY LIVER OR BILIOUS DISEASE, OR WHAT IS COMMONLY KNOWN AMONG WOMEN AS "FEMALE WEAKNESS."



HON. JAMES MURPHY.

This popular and respected jurist, in writing of his remarkable cure, recently said: "Some years ago I commenced to be troubled with a weak side and back, and I suffered intense misery from kidney disease. I consulted a doctor, and was under his care for a long time, but he did me no good. I got a bottle of Warner's Safe Cure, and it worked wonders from the start. I continued to use it, and, although eighty-four years of age, in about two months I was in my normal condition, and for the return of my health I thank the Lord and your great medicine. Whenever I hear of any one having the same trouble I advise them to take Safe Cure, which I am satisfied will cure them."

"About five years ago I advised a friend, who was very ill and lame from kidney trouble, to take Safe Cure, which he proceeded to do, and in a short time he was cured. He now writes me that he could not get along without it under any circumstances."—JAMES P. MURPHY, 515 South Joliet Street, Joliet, Ill. November, 1905.

Put some morning urine in a glass or bottle; let it stand twenty-four hours. If it is milky or cloudy or contains a reddish, brick-dust sediment, or if particles or germs float about in it, your kidneys are diseased. If, after you have made this test, you have any doubt in your mind as to the development of the disease in your system, send us a sample of your urine, and our doctors will analyze it and send you a report with advice free.

### CURES KIDNEY DISEASE

WARNER'S SAFE PILLS taken with WARNER'S SAFE CURE move the bowels gently and aid a speedy cure. WARNER'S SAFE CURE is now put up in two sizes, and is sold by all druggists, or direct, at 50 CENTS and \$1.00 A BOTTLE. Refuse substitutes, containing harmful drugs, which injure the system.

**Trial Bottle Free.** To convince every sufferer from disease of the kidneys, we will send you a trial bottle of Warner's Safe Cure, absolutely free, postpaid, to any one who will write WARNER'S SAFE CURE CO., Rochester, N. Y., and mention having seen this liberal offer in the Sunday Times-Dispatch. The genuineness of this offer is fully guaranteed. Our doctors will send medical booklet containing descriptions of symptoms and treatment of each disease, and many convincing testimonials free to every one.

upon the passage of this bill, the Senate shall go into executive session."

"Well, I will yield to this bill, but no further," said Judge Phlegar. The contingent bill was thereupon taken up and passed. The Senate then went to executive session, all outsiders, including newspaper reporters, being excluded.

At the conclusion of the executive session, the Senate adjourned until noon on Monday.

### Bills Introduced.

By Senator Kezzell: To authorize the Governor and the attorney-general to secure the services of associate counsel in certain cases.

By Senator Roberts (by request): To establish a dispensary at Lawrenceville, Brunswick county.

By Senator Garrett: To authorize the school board of Clifton to borrow money for improving its school building.

By Senator Roberts: To provide for improving roads in Chase City District, Mecklenburg county.

By Senator Patterson: To allow minors to sue by guardian ad litem.

By Senator T. A. Wickham: To allow compensation to the Virginia Home and Industrial School for Girls for caring for girls committed to it by a court, judge or justice.

By Senator Niemeyer: To authorize the city of Portsmouth to improve the sewerage and street improvements.

By Senator Sadler: To amend and reenact an act entitled "An act to amend and reenact sections 2303 and 2304 of the Code."

By Senator Strode: To enlarge the jurisdiction of the Courts of Equity and to define trials by jury.

By Senator Peterson: To appoint a Confederate pension agent in each county in the State.

### THE HOUSE.

Big Tide of Bills Continues to Flow in.

Fewer members than usual were present when the session of the House of Delegates was called to order at noon by Speaker Cardwell. A number of delegates were away on leave and others had left overnight to spend Sunday at home.

After the tide of new bills and resolutions—smaller than for many days—had swept over the House, Senate bill 113, providing for an enumeration of the population of the counties of Giles, Hand and Thaxwell, with a view to the creation of a new judicial circuit, was taken up out of its order and passed by a vote of 39 to 13. The patron of the bill in the House was Judge Martin Williams, of Giles.

At 12:30 o'clock the House, acting on a joint order, proceeded to the election of a superintendent of public printing. The unanimous vote of the body was cast for Mr. Davis Bottom, the choice of the Democratic caucus. The usual messages were exchanged between the two houses, after which Mr. Bottom was declared duly elected.

**The Rew Crab Bill.** Considerable discussion developed over the Rew crab bill, which came up on its second reading, and which, after a lively fight, was again passed, by the instance of Mr. Houston of Hampton.

Mr. Houston explained that the opponents of the bill were seriously handicapped by the absence of Mr. S. Gordon Cumming, legal counsel for the crab-packing interests, who is ill at his home in Hampton. He made an earnest appeal

for a hearing at a later date. The daily bread of thousands of poor men and women, he said, depended upon the operation of the crab-packing plants, which would be closed, half the year if the bill is passed. The speaker proposed to bring a delegation of these people to Richmond to plead their own cause. Incidentally he thanked Mr. Rew for the magnanimity to which that gentleman called the attention of the speaker of the patron of the bill in consenting to its recommitment, after it had been first reported.

Objection came from several quarters, and a good deal was said about holding up the proceedings of the General Assembly of Virginia until a "job" should be recovered sufficiently to get on the ground and lead a fight against the bill. Mr. Rew himself protested against further delay, but finally, after several speeches had been made on both sides, reluctantly expressed his willingness to yield, and the bill went over.

Unanimous consent was asked by Mr. Barry to take up out of its order a bill authorizing the issuance of \$100,000 bonds by the city of Newport News for street improvement. Objection was made on the ground that much time was being wasted through the roll calls and the bill should be taken up in its order. It was declared that the House should proceed to dispatch the business "in order," and let everybody take his chance, without allowing undue precedence to any. And this the House proceeded to do.

The Royal bill, relating to the assessments of the State, which there is standing timber, was called up and passed. About 2 P. M. the House, on a divided vote, adjourned until Monday at noon.

**Bills Introduced.** By Mr. Scott: To establish an epileptic colony on the land of the Western State Hospital in Amherst county.

By Mr. Bowman: To authorize the Governor and the Attorney General to secure the services